



Fact Sheet

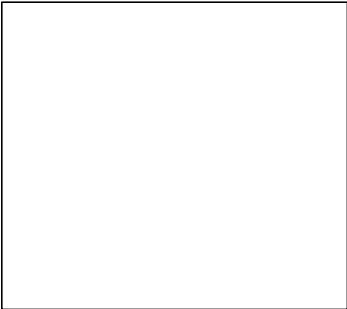
What you need to know about the Northern Kentucky vehicle emissions testing program.

Program began September 1999.	<div>✓</div> <div>In September 1999, the Commonwealth of Kentucky began a vehicle emissions testing program as part of an effort to improve regional air quality. The Northern Kentucky region suffers from poor air quality as a result of ground level ozone, or smog. Odd-model-year vehicles test in odd-numbered years; even model years test in even years. The three-month test period ends with the registration deadline.</div> <div>Ground level ozone pollution contributes to health problems such as chronic lung and heart diseases, allergies and asthma. Young children, older adults, and people who work or play outside are at the highest risk for health problems related to ground level ozone.</div>								
Benefits of emissions testing.	<div>✓</div> <div>Vehicles are major contributors to ground level ozone. Although new vehicles emit less pollution than older ones, their emission levels will increase unless they are carefully maintained. As a vehicle ages, its performance diminishes and fuel economy decreases. Emissions testing identifies vehicles with increased emissions levels, alerting the owner to needed maintenance. As vehicles are repaired, the air quality in the region will improve and individual vehicle performance and fuel economy will increase.</div>								
Affected counties.	<div>✓</div> <div>Motorists whose vehicles are registered in Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties are required to complete an emissions inspection before registering their vehicles.</div>								
Testing is required every other year for 1968 and newer vehicles.	<div>✓</div> <div>An emissions inspection is required every other year for all 1968 and newer gasoline- and Diesel-fueled vehicles up to 18,000 pounds gross vehicle weight. Vehicles with odd-numbered model years are tested in odd-numbered years. Vehicles with even-numbered model years are tested in even-numbered years. For example, 1991 vehicles are tested in 1999, 2001, 2003, and so on.</div>								
Exempt vehicles.	<div>✓</div> <div>Vehicles that are exempt from testing include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vehicles manufactured before 1968 model year• Alternatively fueled vehicles• Vehicles with a gross vehicle weight (GVW) of over 18,000 pounds• Motorcycles</div>								
Test notification.	<div>✓</div> <div>About two months before a vehicle’s registration month, a notice is mailed to every motorist as a reminder of the upcoming test requirement. Bringing the reminder notice, vehicle registration or title to the test station helps speed up the test process.</div>								
When to test.	<div>✓</div> <div>Vehicles can be tested up to two months before the first day of the registration month or any time during that month. Vehicles tested before this test period will not be able to use the test to renew the registration. Motorists who test their vehicles after this testing period are subject to an additional \$5 fee payable at the time of inspection.</div>								
Hours of operation.	<div>🕒</div> <div><table><tr><td>Monday, Wednesday</td><td>8 AM–7 PM</td></tr><tr><td>Tuesday, Thursday, Friday</td><td>8 AM–5 PM</td></tr><tr><td>Saturday</td><td>8 AM–1 PM</td></tr><tr><td>Sunday and Holidays</td><td>Closed</td></tr></table></div>	Monday, Wednesday	8 AM–7 PM	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	8 AM–5 PM	Saturday	8 AM–1 PM	Sunday and Holidays	Closed
Monday, Wednesday	8 AM–7 PM								
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	8 AM–5 PM								
Saturday	8 AM–1 PM								
Sunday and Holidays	Closed								
Best times to test.	<div>✓</div> <div>The best days to get your vehicle tested are the middle two weeks of the month. To save time, avoid testing on Mondays, at lunchtime, or on the day after a holiday.</div>								

Station locations. ✓ One test station is located in each of the three Northern Kentucky counties. Northern Kentucky motorists may have their vehicles tested at any of these stations:



Boone County
5760 Constitution Drive
Florence



Campbell County
1426 Gloria Terrell Drive
Wilder



Kenton County
2029 Rolling Hills Drive
Covington

Test fee \$20. \$ Regardless of pass or fail, the vehicle’s first test costs \$20 and the first retest is free. All subsequent retests cost \$20 each.

All stations accept cash or checks. Credit cards and debit cards are not accepted.

Motorists stay in vehicles. ✓ **The emissions test takes 10–15 minutes** to complete and allows motorists to remain in their vehicles for all except the optional dynamometer portion of the test.

Simple three-step test. ✓ The test is composed of three steps:

1. All 1975 and newer gasoline-fueled vehicles receive a visual inspection for required emissions control equipment (unvented gas cap, fuel inlet restrictor, and catalytic converter – if part of original equipment).
2. Next, the engine idles while emissions levels are sampled. If emissions exceed the standards, the owner is given the option of having a second test after the vehicle is driven on the dynamometer (four-wheel drive and traction control vehicles are pre-conditioned at an elevated idle instead of on the dynamometer).
3. Lastly, the evaporative system pressure test is performed on all gasoline-fueled vehicles model year 1981 or newer. The inspector lifts the hood, clamps off the charcoal canister, and attaches a pressure line to both the gas cap and fuel tank.

What are vehicles tested for? ✓ **Gasoline-fueled vehicles are tested for hydrocarbon (HC) and carbon monoxide (CO) emissions.** Acceptable levels of these pollutants are based on the vehicle model year, weight and number of cylinders.

Diesel-fueled vehicles receive an opacity test that measures the density of particulate matter in the exhaust. These vehicles must have no more than 10 percent opacity to pass the test.

Vehicles that fail. ✓ Owners of vehicles that fail the emissions test are expected to have the vehicle repaired and return it to a station for a retest. Vehicles may be serviced by a repair facility of the motorist’s choice.

Waivers. ✓ **A vehicle that continues to fail the test after multiple repairs and tests may be eligible for a waiver.** The owner must bring the vehicle and repair receipts to a testing station for a visual inspection. (Motorists who repair their own vehicles may bring parts receipts only.) Station personnel will check to ensure that the motorist has achieved measurable emissions improvements and spent at least the following amounts on emissions-related repairs (tampering repairs excluded):

- 1980 or older model years, \$75
- 1981 or newer model years, \$200
- Diesel vehicles, \$75

Toll-free consumer hotline. ☎ For more information on testing-related questions, a toll-free consumer hotline is available at **1-877-291-8787**. Callers with touch-tone phones may call 24 hours a day for recorded information. Personal assistance is available 8 AM through 5 PM Monday through Friday.